

Application Number: 10/626,391

Remarks

In reviewing the claims allowed with the notice of allowance mailed November 14, 2005, an error in the Examiner's amendment was identified. The claims are presented with the assumption the Examiner's Amendment was not entered, and the Applicants are amending the claims in place of the Examiner's Amendment. In the Examiner's Amendment the term "needle forming" in Claim 2 was inserted in the incorrect position¹. The Examiner's amendments to claims 6, 9, and 14 have been incorporated into the present amendment without any change. Therefore, this amendment is being filed merely for the correction of formal matters in the claims without changing the scope thereof.

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicant hereby acknowledges the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance. Applicant respectfully notes that there may be additional reasons for allowance that have not been specifically cited, and which may apply to a variety of the allowed claims, in addition to or instead of the cited Reasons. Applicant respectfully suggests that notwithstanding the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance, it is believed that each of the allowed claims is patentable in its own right and/or for other reasons raised during the prosecution and/or explained in the specification of this application.

¹ The Examiner's Amendment indicated the term "needle forming" should be inserted after the word plurality, which would read "...a plurality needle forming of recesses..."

Application Number: 10/626,391

Conclusion

In view of the Remarks above, applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-16 are clearly in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendment. Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge the fees necessary in connection with this amendment, Payment of the Issue Fee and any other fees necessary in connection with this application, to Deposit Account Number 02-1666.

Any questions concerning this application or amendment may be directed to the undersigned agent of applicant.

Dated: February 7, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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